

ARIZONA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COUNCIL

(AGIC)

**The next Board meeting will be held in PHOENIX on Thursday, May 2, 1996.
Michael Harbushka from Landis Info Freeway is giving a presentation on Raster/Vector
Data Integration prior to the Board meeting.**

CALL TO ORDER - The Executive Management Board of the Arizona Geographic Information Council (AGIC) met on **Thursday, March 7, 1996** in the large conference room on the basement floor (B1) of the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) facility, located at 1600 W. Monroe, in Phoenix. Gene Trobia, President of AGIC's Executive Management Board, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Seth Franzman seconded a motion from Joan Laurence in favor of approving the minutes from the January 4, 1995 Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET - Lynn Larson presented the Council's current budget status and passed out the budget report. She noted that a number of agencies had recently been generous with their financial support to the Council and the contributions were very important to AGIC.

STRATEGIC PLAN - Gene Trobia noted that he had received from Chris English notes, compiled by the subcommittees, from MAGIC '95 sessions on the Strategic Plan. He would consolidate the notes so they could be incorporated into the strategic plan.

Administrative & Legal - Lynn Larson reported that at the last meeting the Council discussed attendance and talked about asking the Governor's Office to send a letter to the agency heads of AGIC member agencies encouraging participation. AGIC is one of the best examples of government cooperation. She then passed out a draft letter which was proposed to come from the Governor's Office stressing participation in AGIC. She asked for comments back from the Council within a week.

Another issue which Ms. Larson mentioned was that Maricopa County had expressed considerable interest in formal participation in AGIC. There has been some concern by counties of not being well represented. Several years ago the GIS Consortia were added to the AGIC Executive Management Board. Ms. Larson stated that she was not sure of how good that representation had been for local government and that maybe AGIC needed to look at another method. She mentioned that she was not sure how active the GIS Consortia were. Jon Chase stated that the Central Arizona Geographic Information System (CARGIS) was an organization assembled to create a strategic plan to develop a regional GIS. That plan was accomplished and presented to the Board of the Maricopa County Association of Governments and at this point there is no formal organizational commitment to implement CARGIS. He also stated that he thought that it would be a good idea to have Maricopa County's participation. Ms. Larson stated that in previous discussion concerning this issue that there had also been some discussion about participation by the utilities. She stated that she would call a meeting of the Administrative and Legal Subcommittee to discuss the representation issue. Anyone interested in attending that meeting who is not on the Administrative and Legal Subcommittee should contact her if they are interested in attending. Joan Laurence stated that increased representation could begin to make the Council unwieldy. Jon Chase said that even if AGIC had 6 or 7 new members around that table that it would be good. Dale Steele (in attendance from the State Library) said that AGIC would have to go to the Governor's Office for changes but perhaps AGIC could invite participation when needed. Ms. Larson suggested that another idea might be that AGIC could add 4 representatives from local government selected by the AGIC board. Ms. Larson then stated that she would call a meeting in the near future to discuss the issue of representation.

Joan Laurence asked if Ms. Larson wanted an official approval of the draft letter for the Governor's Office which was passed out. Ms. Larson said that she did. Dwight Curtiss asked if the letter was to go to federal agencies also. Ms. Larson said that it should. Mr. Curtiss then suggested that one change would be good, that being to move the section on benefits to the agencies higher up in the letter. Ms. Larson stated that for the federal agencies she needs to have an appropriate person for the Governor's Office letter to go to. Jim Plastow then made a motion to modify the letter in accordance to Mr. Curtiss' suggestion and then approve the content of the letter to come from the Governor's Office. Joan Laurence then seconded the motion. Mr. Trobia called for a voice vote on the letter. The motion was unanimously approved by the Council.

ARIZONA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COUNCIL (AGIC)
Executive Management Board
Thursday, March 7, 1996

Data Resources - Gary Irish stated that the main activity of the Data Resources Subcommittee had been in the Parcels and Administrative Boundaries Working Group which was now meeting every month. He also stated that he was still working on trying to make the final corrections to the draft report on recommendations from the Geodetic Control Working Group. He said that he had hoped to have that already done but the Secretary who was assisting with the report had taken another job and that some more time would be needed to complete the corrections and get the draft finalized to begin the review process.

Education - Chris English stated that the Education list server is up and running at the University of Arizona and that he was the list administrator. The current major discussion on the list related to the possibility of adding GIS as a software "cluster" in the State's economic development plans and that with such a designation might come increased possibilities for funding such activities. Mr. English then introduced Brent Jacobson, an ASU student who is putting together a list of issues from the group for further discussion. Jim Plastow then asked if private vendors were subscribing to the list. Mr. English stated that the primary purpose of the list was to communicate issues and ideas. These would then eventually be forwarded to AGIC.

Information Exchange and Technology - Mr. Trobia stated that both of these subcommittees did not currently have chairs but that Sally Lanier would give an update of the current status of the MAGIC 96 conference later in the meeting.

STATE CARTOGRAPHER'S OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT - Lynn Larson briefly reiterated the process used in selection of a candidate to fill the open State Cartographer's position. She stated that an AGIC panel consisting of Don McTaggart, Jon Chase, Rudy Stricklan, Seth Franzman, Lynn Larson, and Gary Irish reviewed the resumes which were promising and ranked 8 potential candidates. The top 4 were then selected for interviews and the panel participated in the interviews and the evaluation of the interviewed candidates. After evaluations the panel recommended that the position be offered to Gene Trobia. Mr. Trobia accepted the offer and will start as the State Cartographer on April 1. The assistant State Cartographer will be hired soon after Mr. Trobia starts his new position. Mr. Trobia was asked to say a few words and stated that he was honored and particularly pleased to have been selected.

LETTERS TO AGENCY HEADS - This topic was covered in the report on the Administrative and Legal Subcommittee. See the discussion in that section listed above.

NSGIC PRESENTATION - Gary Irish reminded the Council that the National States Geographic Information Council will be holding its annual meeting this September in Tucson. He, Gene Trobia and Chris English have been serving on the NSGIC meeting committee as representatives from the host state. NSGIC has reserved a slot on its agenda for Arizona (AGIC) to make a presentation. Mr. Irish stated that he thought that AGIC could have whole slot or one half slot but was not sure of the actual time. Mr. Trobia said that he believed that the slots were 1.5 hours and that AGIC could have a whole slot if it desired. Mr. Irish then stated the question for the board was how much time is wanted and what would the Council like to present. He also stated that at past conferences, MAGIC and GIS/LIS, AGIC had prepared presentations regarding the Council, the AGIC Strategic Plan and the status of the Plan. He also stated that NSGIC is a national body of State GIS Councils and that he thought that NSGIC would be interested in hearing how AGIC was structured, information about the Strategic Plan and what its perceptions were about what was working and what wasn't. Mr. Irish also stated that because the NSGIC Conference is after the MAGIC Conference that perhaps some of whatever the Council presents at the MAGIC 96 conference could be recycled at the NSGIC Conference. Joan Laurence stated that she assumed that the presentation was a good idea and that the Council should do it. Mr. Irish stated that there were several scenarios for a presentation. It could be done by the Council President, a joint presentation by the President and subcommittee chairs, as in previous meetings, or the Council could ask the State Cartographer to make the presentation. Sally Lanier then moved the Council accept the slot and request the full 1.5 hours. Jon Chase seconded the motion. Mr. Trobia called for a voice vote and the motion was unanimously passed. Joan Laurence then asked about the conference and its other content. Mr. Trobia stated that there are currently 10 major topics on the draft NSGIC Conference agenda. Some of these topics were, legal issues in GIS, data sharing, use of the internet, satellite data sources, why GIS projects fail, the Transboundary Resource Inventory Project, an institutional track, GIS saving time and lives, and GIS in the Primary and secondary schools. Mr. Trobia then concluded the discussion by suggesting that he, Mr. English and Mr. Irish would come up with a proposal for AGIC participation in the NSGIC conference at the next AGIC meeting.

MAGIC '96 STATUS / AM/FM COOPERATION - Sally Lanier reminded the Council members that the MAGIC '96 Conference was scheduled for the Camelback Inn in Phoenix for this August and that the call for papers had already been sent out. She said that she would call a meeting of interested participants in the next several weeks to parcel out the conference work. She also stated that she, Jon Chase and Gary Irish met on behalf of AGIC with member of the Arizona Chapter of AM/FM International at Jon Chase's suggestion from the previous AGIC meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to explore ways in which the Arizona Chapter of AM/FM could help fulfill its educational goals and also assist AGIC with the MAGIC Conference. Jon Chase said that one idea which was discussed was that AM/FM could develop a introductory educational track for MAGIC '96. He also stated that the National AM/FM organization might be interested in helping out with that idea perhaps even by providing some financial assistance. Sally Lanier stated that Chris English had suggested that AGIC could also use

ARIZONA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COUNCIL (AGIC)
Executive Management Board
Thursday, March 7, 1996

some student assistance. She also said the basic tracks and template would probably stay the same as before unless anyone has any ideas on that. If so they should contact Ms. Lanier concerning format ideas on any alternatives to the previous Conference formats. As an alternative Ms. Lanier suggested that ideas could also be passed on to ALRIS staff. Ms. Lanier said that a status of the Conference planning would be presented at the next AGIC meeting.

AGIC / FGDC COOPERATION - Gene Trobia announced that the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) has officially recognized AGIC as a cooperating group in helping the FGDC develop the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). He stated that he had received a letter from Nancy Tosta the Special Assistant to the Secretary, for Geographic Data Coordination, Department of the Interior. This letter was the result of several letters between FGDC and AGIC regarding AGIC's participation in developing the NSDI. Mr. Trobia stated that the partnership letter appears to put AGIC on an equitable footing with the FGDC in this relationship.

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS - Ken Osborn congratulated Mr. Trobia on his selection as the State Cartographer and stated that he believed that the State of Arizona had done an excellent job in selection and that Mr. Trobia would do a great job in the position. Mr. Osborn then introduced Dave Bortnem as a member of his staff in Denver who had been assigned to work with AGIC in trying to further its goals and federal goals of cooperation.

Mr. Osborn stated that he himself had been recently working extensively on a U.S. Department of Interior project to develop digital geospatial data along the U.S. / Mexican border. He presented the Council with a document of showing the current status of the National Mapping Divisions holdings of digital geographic data for Arizona. Mr. Osborn then discussed the current status of the U.S. / Mexican border data development initiative. He stated that the study area was 100 miles wide on each side of the border. He stated that the Arizona portion of the border was to be flown this summer and the 1:40,000 scale quarter quad centered color aerial photography would be produced. Further more all Digital Elevation models and Digital Raster Graphics for the study area were scheduled to be produced this year. The PLSS and Boundaries Digital Data sets would be produced for the study area by the end of September and that digital ortho quads would be started in January of 1997. He stated that within 3-5 years the whole border should be done. This year U.S.G.S., E.P.A. and the International Boundary Commission had made major contributions towards funding the data development. The Commission on International Cooperation and the World Bank had agreed to offer financial assistance to Mexico to help with funding for the Mexican side of the border. Mr. Osborn stated that there would be considerable work in developing standards and data cross walks with the Mexican agencies. Chris English noted that in the NSGIC discussion of topics for the September Conference the border studies had taken a back seat but that he believed that it was important to show the extent of what was happening.

Lynn Larson then asked Mr. Osborn how many states had State Cartographer's. He stated that he knew that Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Idaho had them or had them at one time. He then stated that the U.S.G.S. had been getting out of the cooperative programs for that purpose for a while but they are getting back into it now. He said that there are now less than one half dozen across the country. Ms. Larson then asked if it would be possible for Arizona to get some funding for its office. Mr. Osborn said that there are several opportunities through innovative partnership agreements and FGDC grants.

Mr. Osborn then stated that he had recently met with Larry Fellows the Director of the Arizona Geological Survey concerning subsidence problems in the Phoenix area and wanted to know if any of the AGIC board members had an interest in that subject. Richard Trapp stated that the Arizona Geological Survey had established a repository of information on subsidence and environmental information. He also stated that they will be digitizing surface and subsurface geology for the Mesa one degree by one-half degree quadrangle this summer.

Sally Lanier then asked about Digital Raster Graphics stating that her Department (AGFD) had an interest in the product. Ken Osborn said he would be talking with her about them and that anyone else interested in the products should let him know. Jim Plastow asked Ms. Lanier if her Department was interested in the products state wide. She said yes, and they were interested if developing cooperative efforts. Jim Plastow said that his Department (ADWR) was looking at water/tribal issues and they might have an interest in the products. Ms. Lanier also thought that the Forest Service might have an interest in the digital raster graphics. Ken Osborn then explained that the digital raster graphics are packaged as 64 quads on a CD which also includes 1:250,000 scale maps. The U.S.G.S. home page has some good examples.

Gene Trobia then introduced John Regan of Pima County who is the Southern Arizona GIS alternate representative for AGIC and has been involved with the Transboundary Resource Inventory Project.

Chris English passed out an agenda from the state of Minnesota's Geographic Information Council as an example of what one other state is doing.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting is scheduled for May 2, 1996 and will be in the same meeting location as before (Department of Revenue, large conference room, basement, 1600 W. Monroe, Phoenix). The next meeting after May is tentatively scheduled for June 27 because the primary July meeting date falls on a holiday (July 4). A confirmation of the date and place of the June 27th meeting will be forthcoming.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC - Julie Hoff of the Arizona State Library announced that the Arizona Board of Geographic Names

ARIZONA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COUNCIL (AGIC)
Executive Management Board
Thursday, March 7, 1996

would be holding a meeting in Prescott on April 3.

The March board meeting was adjourned at 3:01 PM.